30th October 1933]

Prosecution by the Police for the non-payment of motor tax.

* 137 *Q.*—Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government are aware that for non-payment of motor tax, the Police are launching prosecutions without giving any notice and without giving any opportunity to owners to pay the tax without being prosecuted;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that such prosecutions for non-payment have been launched after the fixed date without finding out whether the tax had been paid after the given date; and

(*c*) whether the Government have any proposal before them of amending the rules with a view to lessen the difficulties of the owners of motor vehicles?

A.—(*a*) The Government have issued instructions to the effect that owners of motor vehicles should be allowed a week's period of grace within which to pay the tax due before action is taken to prosecute them. The Government have no reason to think that these instructions are not being observed.

(*b*) No such instance has come to the notice of the Government.

(*c*) No. If any suggestions are received, they will be duly considered.

Agriculture

Contributions to the United Planters' Association of South India.

* 138 *Q.*—Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any contribution is paid by the Government to the United Planters' Association of South India and, if so, what the extent and purpose is of their contribution; and

(*b*) whether Indians are allowed as members of the said association?

A.—(*a*) A contribution of Rs. 28,000 per annum is paid to the Association for the conduct of scientific work in connexion with the planting industries in Southern India.

(*b*) Yes.

Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar:—" With reference to the answer to clause (*a*) of this question, may I ask the nature of the scientific work conducted by the United Planters' Association of South India? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan:—" I must ask for notice."

Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar:—" May I ask whether the Government have at any time seen the nature of this work in view of the fact that they are making a contribution? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan:—" I must ask for notice."